Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ADP-00 AGR-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-10

LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 STR-08 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 OMB-01

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P 062230Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4746

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 2803

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: BIDS ETRD DIND CS

SUBJ: COTTON TEXTILES - INQUIRY BY

FOREIGN MINISTER RE IMPOUNDED SHIPMENT

1. SUMMARY: BY FIRST PERSON NOTE DATED AUGUST 4, 1973, FOREIGN MINISTER FACIO ASKED OUR ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING CLEARANCE OF 1,500 DOZEN DRESSES (CATEGORY 53) FROM GORT INDUSTRIES INC., HELD IN MIAMI.

ACTION REQUESTED: (1) DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANCE TO EXTENT FEASIBLE IN RESOLVING PROBLEM, AND INFORMATION UPON WHICH TO BASE A REPLY TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S NOTE. (2) REQUEST UP TO DATE STATUS REPORT ON PERTINENT COTTON TEXTILE CATEGORIES FOR THIS STAGE OF IMPORT YEAR.

2. TRANSMITTED BELOW IS THE VERBATIM TEXT OF A NOTE DATED AUGUST 4, 1973 IN WHICH FOREIGN MINISTER FACIO REQUESTS THE ASSISTANCE OF THE AMBASSADOR IN SECURING THE CLEARANCE OF 1,500 DOZEN DRESSES NOW BEING HELD IN MIAMI CUSTOMS:

QUOTE I HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT THE CUSTOM OFFICIALS IN MIAMI, FLORIDA ARE HOLDING

A SHIPMENT OF DRESSES SENT BY GORT INDUSTRIES INC., OF COSTA RICA, WITH THE EXPLANATION

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CATEGORY 53 IS CLOSED.

QUOTE IN MAY OF THIS YEAR, THIS COMPANY HAD CONVERSATIONS WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE IN WASHINGTON AND WAS INFORMED SINCE THERE WAS NO AGREEMENT WITH COSTA RICA, ALL CATEGORIES WERE NO LONGER IN EFFECT, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE NEWLY IMPOSED CATEGORY NO. 51. UPON ADVICE OF THE DEPT. OF COMMERCE, (GORT INDUSTRIES) PROCEEDED TO CUT MORE DRESSES UNDER 807 APD BECAUSE OF THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE CUSTOMS BUREAU, NOW WE ARE IN A SERIOUS CONDITION HAVING FOLLOWED THE ADVISEMENT FROM WASHINGTON.

QUOTE HOWEVER, THEY HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY MR. JERRY GORDON OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, THAT UPON RECEIPT OF A LETTER FROM ME, REQUESTING RELEASE OF THESE GARMENTS, THEY WOULD BE AGREEABLE TO TAKE IT UNDER IMMEDIATE ADVISEMENT FROM WASHINGTON. THEREFORE, I AM REQUESTING, ON THEIR BEHALF, THE CLEARANCE OF 1,500 DOZEN DRESSES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. IT WOULD APPEAR THERE HAS BEEN SOME MISUNDERSTANDING WHICH HAS MADE THIS REQUEST NECESSARY. END QUOTE.

3. COMMERCIAL ATTACHE HAS ALSO RECEIVED AN INQUIRY REGARDING THE STATUS OF THE QUOTA FOR IMPORTATION OF BLUE JEANS, AND WITH THE APPROACH OF THE END OF THE IMPORT YEAR (SEPTEMBER 29) MORE SUCH REQUEST MAY BE EXPECTED. IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF THE DEPARTMENT COULD FURNISH A TELEGRAPHIC STATUS REPORT OF THOS COTTON TEXTILE CATEGORIES OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO COSTA RICA.

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